

## CLAIMS

I claim:

1           1.       A molding machine, comprising:  
2               two mold carriers defining a mold space therebetween, wherein one of said two  
3       mold carriers is movable relative to the other of said two mold carriers;  
4               a drive for moving said one of said two mold carriers; and  
5               a power unit for generating a predetermined closing force between said two mold  
6       carriers when said two mold carriers are moved together, wherein the separate power unit  
7       comprises a pressure cushion filled with a highly viscous composition that has a viscosity greater  
8       than that of hydraulic oil.

1           2.       The molding machine of claim 1, wherein said drive comprises an  
2       electromechanical drive.

1           3.       The molding machine of claim 2, wherein said drive comprises a ball-  
2       rolling spindle drive.

1           4.       The molding machine of claim 2, wherein said drive comprises a hollow-  
2       shafted motor, a spindle and a spindle nut and wherein said hollow-shafted motor is operatively  
3       connected for effecting linear movement of said spindle.

1           5.       The molding machine of claim 1, further comprising a pressure cylinder,  
2       wherein said pressure cylinder and said drive are supported on the same part of said molding  
3       machine, and wherein said pressure cushion is disposed in said pressure cylinder.

1                   6.       The molding machine of claim 5, further comprising an auxiliary piston  
2   arranged for generating the pressure of said pressure cushion, wherein a piston surface of said  
3   auxiliary piston is smaller than a piston surface of said pressure cylinder.

1                   7.       The molding machine of claim 6, further comprising an electromechanical  
2   linear drive operatively arranged for moving said auxiliary piston.

1                   8.       The molding machine of claim 1, wherein said highly viscous composition  
2   comprises grease.

1                   9.       The molding machine of claim 1, wherein said molding machine  
2   comprises an injection molding machine and said mold carriers comprise mold mounting plates.

1                   10.      The molding machine of claim 9, wherein said injection molding machine  
2   comprises a tiebarless injection molding machine and further comprises a C-shaped shackle and  
3   a third plate, wherein said third plate and said other of said two molded carriers are retained at  
4   said C-shaped shackle and wherein said drive for said one of said two mold carriers is supported  
5   on one of said third plate said other of said two mold carriers.